

City of Houston Municipal Art
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Oliver Twist

PUBLIC ART COLLECTION IDENTIFICATION SUMMARY



Number: 0023

Artist: Guthrie, Trace

Title: Oliver Twist

Date: 1976

Type: Sculpture

Medium: Bronze

Dimensions: Sculpture: approx. 4'6" x 1'4" x 1'4" Pedestal and Base: 10" x 2'8" x 2'8"

Foundry/Fabricator: Al Shakis Foundry

Location/Environment: Hermann Park, Miller Outdoor Theatre

Provenance: Given to the City of Houston by Theater Under the Stars

Historical Background

Subject

The endearing story of *Oliver Twist*, by Charles Dickens, is one that many are familiar with. Much like in the story of the poor orphan, the statue depicts the child asking for more porridge. With a disheveled air about him, he holds his bowl and spoon outstretched earnestly to the viewer. The sculpture was donated to the City of Houston by the Theater Under the Stars and appropriately brings to life this literary character.

Physical Description

The statue is life size and portrays a young male with an outstretched bowl with a spoon in it. The sculpture is on a concrete base that measures approximately 10" x 2'8" x 2'8". The statue is composed of cast bronze and measures 4'6" x 1'4" x 1'4". There is a dark brown patination on the piece.

Restoration/Conservation

Oliver was restored in May 1998.